BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL : No. 119 DB 2022

Petitioner

File No. C1-21-262

Attorney Registration No. 22187

BRUCE MARTIN GINSBURG

٧.

Respondent : (Philadelphia)

ORDER

AND NOW, this <u>16th</u> day of September, 2022, in accordance with Rule 208(a)(5), Pa.R.D.E., the determination by a Review Panel of the Disciplinary Board of the above captioned matter is accepted; and it is

ORDERED that the said BRUCE MARTIN GINSBURG be subjected to a PUBLIC REPRIMAND by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as provided in Rule 204(a) and Rule 205(c)(8) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement. Costs shall be paid by the Respondent.

BY THE I

Board Chair

TRUE COPY FROM RECORD

Attest:

Marcee^ID. Sloan Board Prothonotary

The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,

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BRUCE MARTIN GINSBURG,

: (Philadelphia)

Respondent

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Bruce Martin Ginsburg, you appear before the Disciplinary Board for the imposition of a Public Reprimand ordered by the Board on September 16, 2022. It is an unpleasant task to publicly reprimand one who has been granted the privilege of membership in the bar of the Commonwealth. Yet as repugnant as this task may be, it has been determined necessary that you receive this public discipline.

Mr. Ginsburg, this matter involves your payment to a fraudster of settlement funds belonging to your client. You paid the money by wire transfer according to suspicious wire-transfer instructions that you failed to investigate or question, which were emailed to your firm by the fraudsters. After the fraud came to light, you delayed inordinately in finally paying the client's money to her.

By your conduct, you violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC"):

1. RPC 1.4(a)(3), in that you failed to contact your client to ensure that she was the person who had sent a suspicious email requesting that her settlement funds be wire-transferred to an account at a bank in Alabama that was in a name other than the client's name.

- 2. RPC 1.15(b), in that you paid your client's settlement proceeds to an unknown third party without questioning suspicious wire-transfer instructions, thus failing to safeguard your client's funds.
- 3. RPC 8.4(c), in that, a) knowing that a fraud had been perpetrated resulting in your wiring client settlement funds to an unknown third party, you delayed for approximately one year before paying your client's settlement funds to her; and b) you signed a wire transfer authorization form knowing that the form contained inaccurate information: specifically, you lacked the address of the beneficial owner of the transferee bank account and did not contact your client for the missing address (which would have revealed a fraud in play); rather, though acting in good faith, you listed your client's name and address as the purported beneficial owner of the account and provided your bank, PNC, with the routing number of the transferee bank and the account number at the transferee bank to which you were directing that the funds be wired, where PNC therefore had no cause to question the name and address that you provided on the wire transfer authorization form.

Mr. Ginsburg, your conduct in this matter is public. This Public Reprimand is a matter of public record and shall be posted on the Disciplinary Board's website at www.padisciplinaryboard.org.

It is the Board's duty to reprimand you for your misconduct. We note that you have no record of discipline since your admission to practice law in the Commonwealth in 1975. Please be aware that any subsequent violations on your part can only result in further discipline and perhaps more severe sanctions. We sincerely hope that you will

conduct yourself in such a manner that future disciplinary action will be unnecessary.

S/Robert Repard
Designated Member
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on April 10, 2023.